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**RURAL DISTRICT
OF
MALMESBURY**

Wills

RURAL DISTRICT

of

MALMESBURY

T H E

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

and


S E N I O R P U B L I C H E A L T H I N S P E C T O R

for the

YEAR ENDING

31st. December

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

(a) MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

C.L. Broomhead, M.D., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Also Medical Officer of Health for the Boroughs of Calne, Chippenham and Malmesbury, and the Rural District of Calne & Chippenham.

(b) SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR.

R.S. Pierce, Cert. S.I.B., Meat & Other Food Inspector's
Cert.

(c) ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

D.G. Davies, Cert. S.I.B., Meat & Other Food Inspector's
Cert.

(d) CLERK TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

S.G.V. Williamson, Cert. R.I.P.H.H.

TO:- The Chairman & members,
Malmesbury Rural District Council.

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Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year ended 31st. December, 1956.

General and Vital Statistics, i.e. Population, Birth and Death Rates etc. are shown on page 6 with appropriate comments.

Although the Council is concerned principally with environmental health as distinct from the personal health services of the County Council, a report on public health necessitates comment on all aspects of the National Health Service.

Although the Public Health Service is fundamentally concerned with the control of epidemic disease, it is also concerned with environmental conditions, a pure and wholesome food supply, and the provision of facilities for the preservation and maintenance of the health of the mother and child. It is responsible also for the welfare of the mentally and physically handicapped and the aged.

Vaccination and Immunisation.

The Wilts. County Council, as Local Health Authority under the National Health Service, arranges the immunisation schemes for Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Poliomyelitis and more recently B.C.G. vaccination. Vaccination against Smallpox is usually carried out by the Local General Practitioners unless mass vaccination has to be arranged, when the County Staff assist.

Compulsory powers for infant vaccination ceased with the coming into operation of the National Health Service Act, 1948 and were replaced by voluntary arrangements. The number of infants under the age of one year vaccinated is now below the safety margin and the public should be made aware that the danger of infection is still very real and should not be ignored. Statistics relating to vaccination will be found on page 10 of this report.

Immunisation against Diphtheria is still of prime importance, this procedure has contributed largely to the absence of any notified cases of Diphtheria during the year.

Immunisation against Whooping Cough is usually incorporated with immunisation against Diphtheria and is a useful means of either avoiding an attack or of limiting its extent.

Poliomyelitis inoculations have been given to children in the Rural District during 1956 without any complications. It is too early yet to assess the value of this immunisation, but there is every reason to believe that it will prove effective.

B.C.G. immunisation. During the preparation of this report, B.C.G. immunisation against Tuberculosis has been made available to thirteen year old school children in certain schools in North West Wiltshire. This is an important and valuable measure in the control of Tuberculosis.

The striking improvement which has taken place in the infant mortality rate as a whole in recent years, has been due entirely to the saving of infant life after the first week, the Perinatal Mortality Rate, i.e. Still Births and Deaths under one week, have, however shown little improvement since 1949. The causes of perinatal mortality have now been investigated, and it has been shown that early recognition of these conditions can effect a further saving in infant life.

Scarlet Fever.

Most cases notified are of a mild type, and are usually sporadic, appearing whenever the population generally is suffering from a mild outbreak of sore throats or colds. Nevertheless, certain types of Haemolytic Streptococcal infection may have a selective action on the kidneys and may cause serious illness in adults.

Measles.

It is impracticable to control this disease due to its high infectiousness before the patient shows any sign of its presence. He may spread infection for several days before the characteristic rash is seen. It is fortunate that the fatality rate, like that of Scarlet Fever, has been steadily improving.

Whooping Cough.

The infant is very vulnerable to Whooping Cough. It is hoped that the combination of Whooping Cough with Diphtheria immunisation will contribute towards limiting this disease or reducing the severity of the attack. The group in greatest need of protection is that under six months of age.

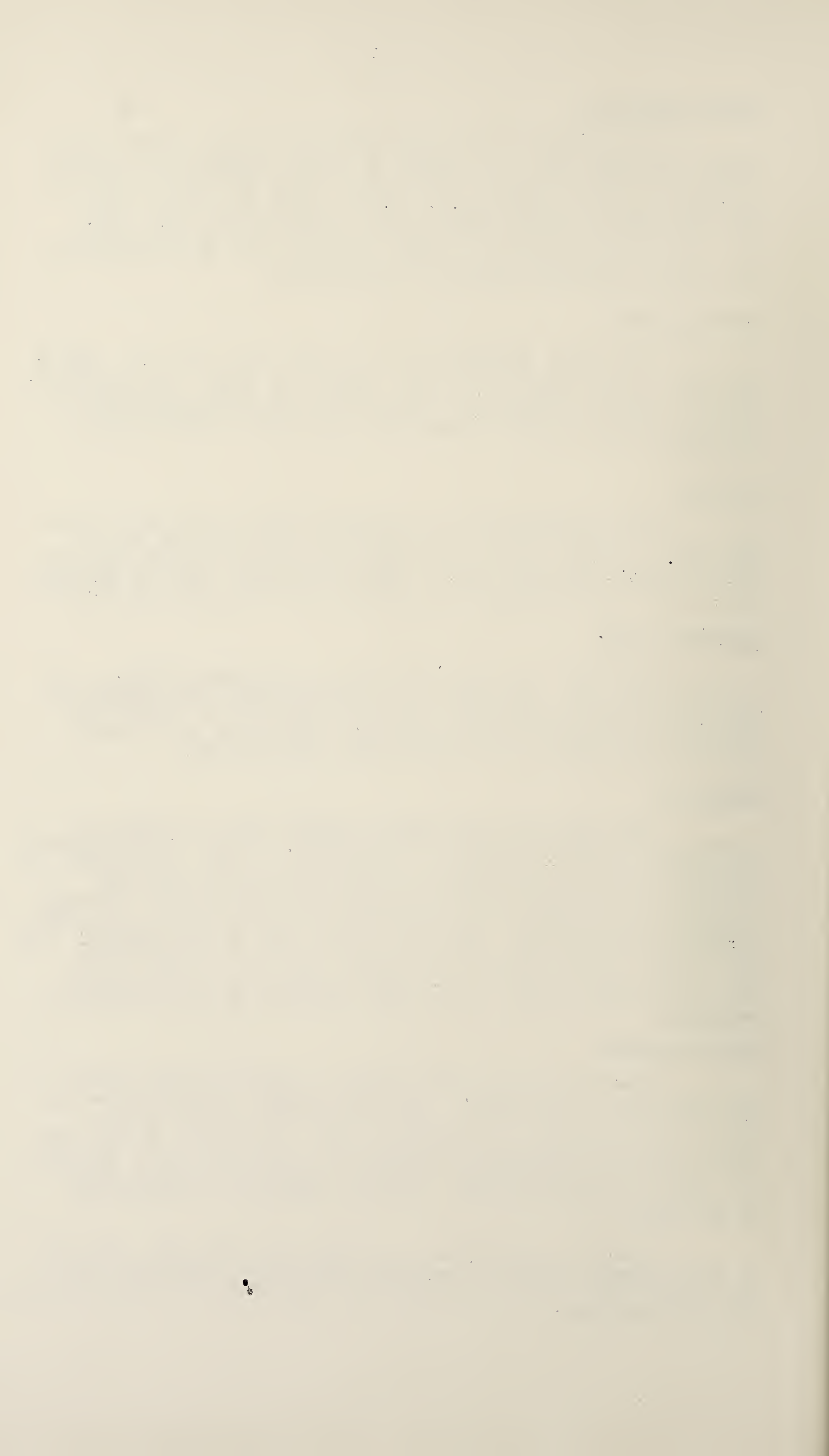
Dysentery.

This disease, most common amongst young children, is rapidly increasing throughout the Country. There is an apparent as well as a real increase, as facilities for the examination of specimens have been improved, and therefore more cases are diagnosed on bacteriological grounds; the only way to establish a positive diagnosis. It is fortunate that the usual causative organism is responsible for only a mild form of the disease. The fact of its spread clearly indicates a general failure on the part of the population to wash hands after use of the toilet. This simple act is one of the most effective of all preventive measures.

Food Poisoning.

Pre-cooked meat dishes take a prominent place among the vehicles of infection. Sometimes noxious bacteria are not killed in the process of cooking and the time which elapses between the cooking of the meat and the consumption of the dish allows them to attain such numbers or to produce such a quantity of toxin as to be harmful. A common source of contamination is a septic condition of the skin or a symptomless infection of the nose.

Scrupulous cleanliness of hands and utensils, cooking at temperatures lethal to bacteria, the use of sound meat and the restriction of made up dishes all contribute to the prevention of food poisoning.



The present methods of treatment and prevention may eventually bring this disease under control. Tuberculosis is still the most important infectious disease, especially in the most productive years of life. Case finding is the key to prevention and efforts are necessary to trace the source of the disease in recognised cases and in those whose infection is revealed by the tuberculin test.

Cancer.

In his report for the year 1955, the Chief Medical Officer to the Ministry of Health states that "Civilised man appears to be increasingly surrounding himself with an unnatural chemical environment whose carcinogenic potentialities are being gradually explored. To what extent human cancer is caused by environmental carcinogens is not yet known, but as more and more of the chemical substances which man inhales, absorbs or ingests are being proved carcinogenic to animals, it seems reasonable to infer that certain cancers of the human body may be initiated or promoted by such substances".

Removal of a cancer in an early stage of development can be successful and the survival rate for treated cancers continues to increase, nevertheless, the proportion of cancers found suitable for radical treatment is disappointingly small. There is no general solution as yet along curative lines.

Statistical studies in many countries have suggested that the incidence of cancer of certain sites is related to certain extraneous factors of great diversity. The most important at present is the association between Lung Cancer and Cigarette smoking. This problem cannot be ignored or its importance depreciated. The lives of those who will follow us must be considered and an effort made to halt the increasing annual death rate from this disease. In males 50-54 the Lung Cancer death rate is one half of the total cancer death rate and about one eighth of the total death rate for all causes in males. Many countries have carried out investigations and all are agreed that the relative risk of developing lung cancer rises in proportion to the amount of tobacco, especially cigarettes consumed. It has been stated that for a person smoking 40 cigarettes a day, the chance of lung cancer was 70 times greater than for a non-smoker, also that there was a higher mortality in cigarette smokers than in pipe smokers, and a higher mortality in those who continue to smoke than in those who give it up. The risks involved should be made clear to all young persons in order that they do not commence a habit potentially dangerous, and so difficult to give up once formed.

Mental Health.

It is generally accepted that the Child Welfare Services must pay increasing attention to the mental and emotional development of the child in an attempt to prevent or minimise the onset of mental illness. Treatment can be more effective or avoided altogether if the signs of physical or mental abnormality are noted and acted upon at an early age.

WELFARE OF THE AGED.

The needs of old people living in their own homes continue to attract attention. Although every possible opportunity is taken to permit old people to remain in their own homes in conjunction with the County Welfare Officer and/or the Home Help Service, admission to hospital was found necessary for an elderly person living in Sherston.

NEW HEALTH LEGISLATION.

The Food & Drugs Act, 1955 came into operation on the 1st January, 1956. The Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 also came into operation on the 1st January, 1956.

NEW HEALTH LEGISLATION (CONTINUED)

Under the Food Hygiene Regulations, certain provisions involving alterations to premises or equipment or substantial changes in existing practices were deferred until the 1st July, 1956.

I am grateful to Mr. Pierce, the Staff of the Council, and to Mr. Williamson, my clerk, for their assistance in the preparation of this report and their co-operation during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

C.L. BROOMHEAD,

Area (in acres)	58090
Population	10, 070
No. of inhabited houses (end of 1956 according to the Rate Book)	2871
Rateable Value	£105,297
Sum represented by Penny Rate	£429

VITAL STATISTICS.

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>				
	BIRTHS	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
	Legitimate	89	94	183
	Illegitimate	1	3	4
	Total	90	97	187

Crude Birth Rate for the District	18.5 per 1000 of the population.
Adjusted Birth Rate for the District	19.2 per 1000 of the population.
Birth Rate for England & Wales	15.7 per 1000 of the population.

The Birth Rate for 1956 is lower compared with the previous year which was 21.7 per 1000 of the population (adjusted birth rate).

The population figure includes members of the Armed Forces stationed in the area and the Birth Rate is based on this population. To make an approximate allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from that for England & Wales as a whole, the Crude Birth Rate for the area is multiplied by the Area Comparability Factor (1.04).

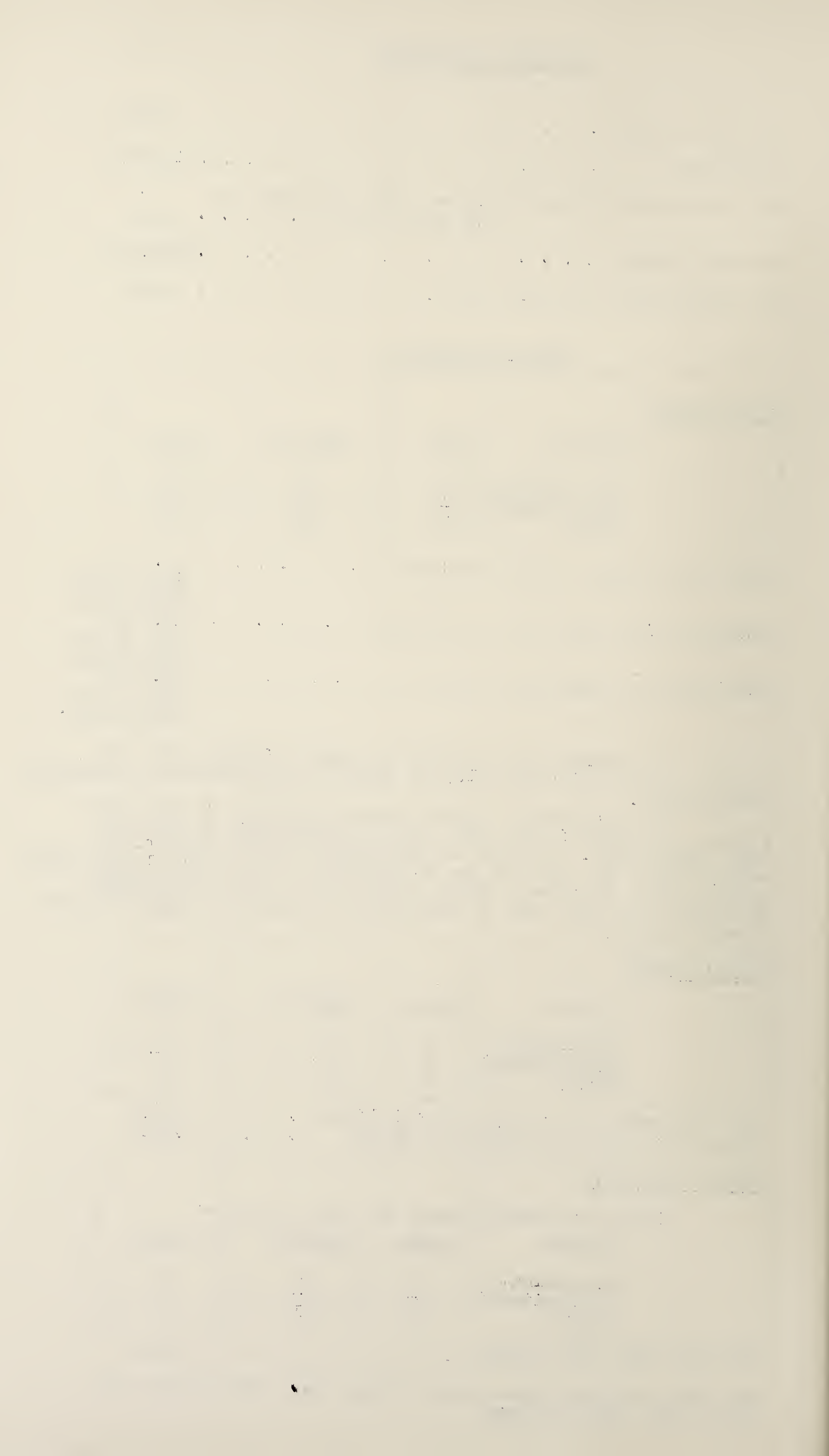
<u>STILL BIRTHS</u>				
	BIRTHS	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
	Legitimate	2	4	6
	Illegitimate	-	-	-
	Total	2	4	6

Rate per 1000 total live & still births	31.08
Comparative rate for England & Wales	23.0

<u>INFANT MORTALITY</u>				
Deaths of infants under one year of age:-				
BIRTHS	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL	
Legitimate	2	1	3	
Illegitimate	-	-	-	
Total	2	1	3	

Rate per 1000 live births	16.0
-------------------------------------	------

The three infants shown in the above table died during the first four weeks of life.



DEATHS

7

Deaths recorded in the Rural District during 1956 were as follows:-

	Males	Females	Total
	47	51	98
Crude			
Death Rate for the District			9.7 per 1000
			of the population
Adjusted Death Rate for the District			9.797 per 1000
			of the population.
Comparative Rate for England & Wales			11.7 per 1000 of
			the population.

The population figure includes members of the Armed Forces stationed in the area and the Death Rate is based on this population. To make an approximate allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from that for England & Wales as a whole, the Crude Death Rate for the area is multiplied by the Area Comparability Factor (1.01). The rates given below which apply to 1955, show an increase in the Death Rate for 1956 by comparison.

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
Ac. Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	2	3
" " " " , Lung, bronchus	1	1	2
" " " " , Breast	1	1	2
" " " " , Uterus	-	2	2
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	3	4	7
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	1	2
Diabetes	-	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	7	7	14
Coronary disease angina	10	8	18
Hypertension with heart disease	1	2	3
Other heart disease	5	6	11
Other circulatory disease	5	5	10
Influenza	1	-	1
Pneumonia	1	1	2
Bronchitis	1	1	2
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	1	1
Gastritis, enteritis, diarrhoea	1	-	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	-	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	1	-	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3	7	10
Motor vehicle accidents	-	-	-
All other accidents	-	1	1
Suicide	2	-	2
TOTAL ALL CAUSES:-	47	51	98

It will be seen from the above table that Cancer, Heart Disease and Coronary Disease collectively account for nearly half the total deaths in the Rural District during the year. It is gratifying to note however that no deaths were recorded from communicable diseases, particularly Tuberculosis.

NATURAL INCREASE. Increase of live births over deaths. . .89
Rate of natural increase per 1000
of the population 8.8

The following table shows the infectious diseases notified during 1956 with comparative figures for each year since 1950.

DISEASE.

	1950		1951		1952		1953		1954		1955		1956	
	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b
Scarlet Fever	12	12	20	20	12	12	2	2	1	1	6	5	2	2
Whooping Cough	22	22	31	31	11	11	15	15	57	57	37	37	9	9
Diphtheria	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	47	47	66	66	101	101	25	25	6	6	180	180	7	7
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	3	1	5	2	-	-	3	1	-	-	1	1	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	1	-	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Para Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Ppisoning	-	-	59	59	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	-
Pneumonia	4	4	2	2	1	1	3	3	4	4	8	8	1	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever.	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS :-	93	88	184	181	127	127	51	49	72	70	234	231	23	20

"a" = Numbers originally notified
"b" = Final numbers after correction.

According to the notifications received of cases of Infectious Disease, the Rural District was remarkably free from communicable disease during 1956; the lowest totals recorded since 1950.

The three cases of Food Poisoning notified were not confirmed following investigation.

New cases of tuberculosis notified and confirmed by the County Chest Physician during the year are as follows with comparative figures for previous years since 1949.

YEAR	PULMONARY	NON-PULMONARY	TOTAL
1948	5	1	6
1949	3	-	3
1950	3	4	7
1951	6	-	6
1952	3	2	5
1953	8	-	8
1954	7	4	11
1955	5	-	5
1956	4	-	4

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY
DURING 1956 ACCORDING TO AGE AND SEX.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0								
1								
5								
15		1						
25	1							
35		1						
45								
55		1						
65 upwards.								
TOTAL:-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-

It is gratifying that no deaths were recorded during the year from Tuberculosis.

It should be noted however that in addition to the new cases notified each year, a certain proportion of tuberculous persons either move into the district or move out. According to the Register of Tuberculous Persons, the following cases were resident in the Rural District at the end of 1956.

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	22	28	50
Non-Pulmonary	12	4	16
Total	34	32	66

MASS RADIOGRAPHY

Although a survey of the General Public was not held during the year, a mobile X-Ray Unit operated at establishments at Hullavington and Crudwell where a total of 290 persons attended for examination. Of that number only one person was found to be suffering from tuberculosis. The disease in this particular case was considered to be inactive.

DIPHTHERIA & WHOOPING COUGH
IMMUNISATION.

The following children received primary immunisation during 1956.

<u>Under 1 year</u>	<u>Ages 1-4</u>	<u>Ages 5-14</u>
158	95	26
<u>Total . . 279. .</u>		

Total immunised child population at 31.12.56

<u>Ages 0-4</u>	<u>Ages 5-14</u>	<u>Total. . 1913. .</u>
472	1441	

VACCINATION

The following children were vaccinated during 1956.

<u>Under 1 year</u>	<u>Ages 1 - 4</u>	<u>Ages 5-14</u>	<u>Ages 15 or over</u>
75	5	-	3
<u>Total 83</u>			

In addition one child in the age group 2-4 and 12 children aged 15 or over were re-vaccinated during the year.

During the year the various Undertakings serving the Rural District were subject to frequent bacteriological examination. Departures from the normal were investigated and appropriate action taken to safeguard the supply. A summary of inspections carried out during the year is given in the Senior Public Health Inspector's report annexed.

EXISTING SUPPLIES.

(a) From sources maintained by the Council.

1. OAKSEY. - Water is raised from a Borehole and the supply is chlorinated before distribution to the consumer. Regular bacteriological examinations of the raw and treated water have been carried out during the year. On the 12th June, the following report and recommendations were submitted to the Council:-

" I wish to refer to my report dated 20th. October, 1950. The report gave details of pollution occurring in this water supply; the action taken with recommendations to safeguard the source.

Since this report, samples taken direct from the bore have occasionally been reported as showing a gross degree of coliform pollution, either with or without organisms of the faecal type.

Bacteriological reports on the water in supply are usually satisfactory. Whenever any departure from the normal is noted, the water manager is requested to pay particular attention to the Chlorination dose. A sample of the treated water taken on the 28th May, 1956 was reported by the Bacteriologist as showing gross pollution with both faecal and non-faecal organisms. Repeat samples were taken and the chlorine dose increased. The warning notice to boil all water, previously issued in 1950, was emphasised.

Samples from the bore and from the piped supply taken on the 1st June, 1956, and a sample taken from the piped supply on the 4th June, 1956 have shown no evidence of pollution.

I visited the Water Undertaking with Mr. Campbell on Tuesday morning, 5th June, 1956. Drainage arrangements in the vicinity of the bore are not altogether satisfactory. In an adjoining property known as Pear Tree Cottage, within a very circumscribed garden, there is a Cesspool and filter bed system. Further, the adjoining Council houses are drained to a series of septic tanks with manual pumps, the intention being that each individual householder shall pump the contents over his garden. These are not being used and tanks are discharging into open drains in each individual garden. The Water Manager states he understands the tanks are not impermeable.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (1) Samples of the raw and treated water to be taken each week in future.
- (2) Strict attention to chlorination is necessary at all times to ensure that there is an adequate residual dose of chlorine in the water in supply.
- (3) The drainage to the Council Houses should be improved and the present system abolished. I have received letters of complaint from a General Practitioner and a Miss S.L. Hawkins.
- (4) The extension of the Regional Scheme to the village might well be given further consideration in view of the alarming bacteriological fluctuations.

WATER SUPPLIES (Continued)(1) Oaksey (continued)

Approval in principle has since been received for the extension of the main to the village.

(2) CRUDWELL - The Raw and Treated water has been sampled for bacteriological examination with the following results:-

<u>Raw Water</u>		<u>Treated Water</u>		<u>Total Samples</u>	
<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsat.</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsat.</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsat.</u>
Nil	3	9	2	9	5

A samples of the raw water taken on the 23rd. May was reported to be grossly polluted with non-faecal coliform organisms and a very small number of faecal B. Coli. The site was inspected with the Council's Water Manager. The Chlorinator, which is of the drip feed type, was working well and there did not appear to be any pollution from adjoining Council houses. The Water Manager was advised to pay particular attention to chlorination. Samples of both the raw and treated water taken subsequent to the 16th. July were reported by the Bacteriologist as satisfactory.

In my report for the year 1955 I recommended that consideration be given to the inclusion of this village in the main extension. Approval in principle has now been received.

(3) HULLAVINGTON. - The village is now supplied with water from the Corston source.(4) CORSTON - Samples of the raw and treated water from this source have been taken at regular intervals for bacteriological examination. These samples were satisfactory with the exception of one sample taken on the 10th September reported as grossly polluted with both faecal and non-faecal coliform organisms. This isolated incident occasioned the following report to the Council:-

" Bacteriologist's report dated 17th September confirms gross pollution both faecal and non-faecal in a sample of the treated water taken on the 10th September, arriving at the Laboratory on the 12th September.

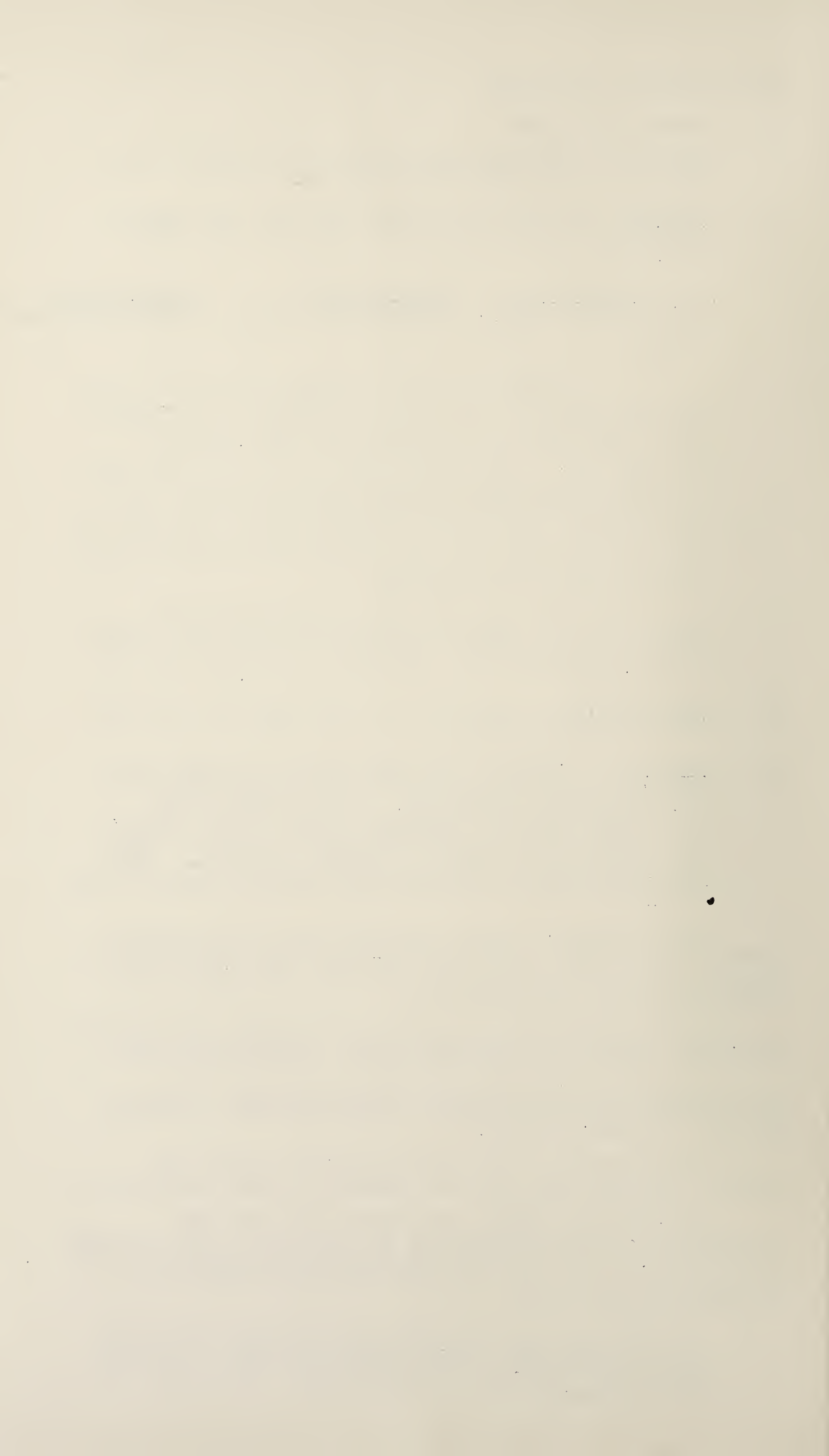
Notified Engineer, Mr. Haynes, by telephone and impressed on him the urgency of completion of the chlorinating plant.

Arranged meeting with the Clerk, Malmesbury R.D.C., Water Manager and Senior Public Health Inspector. Meeting held in the Clerk's office.

Clerk informed of the Bacteriologist's report and opinion expressed that water was unfit for human consumption.

Apparently the spring overflow is used with its chlorinator to supply chlorination of the water in the Reservoir at Rodbourne. Obviously thereby polluted water, inadequately chlprinated has been pumped to the Reservoir. Following arrangements were made:-

1. To ensure that the Reservoir at Rodbourne contains at least .2 parts per million of free chlorine, this will require the addition of bulk chlorine solution by the Water Manager.



(4) CORSTON (CONTINUED)

2. The practice of using the spring overflow as a source of chlorination is to cease and the Bore to be used entirely as a water source.
3. Samples for bacteriological examination to be taken from the spring overflow, Bore and the Reservoir before and after chlorination, and also from previous consumers.
4. Daily bacteriological examination of the Bore Supply until chlorinator is installed. Mr. Pierce agreed to do this.
5. In view of the fact that consumers have been using this water source since the 10th September at least, I decided not to issue warning notices considering the positive steps taken to deal with the supply.
6. Rang up Wallace & Terman of Power Road, London, W.4. (Chiswick 7191) and spoke to Mr. Harris, one of the Directors arranging the early dispatch of the pump still required for the chlorinator. Mr. Harris agreed that it was disgraceful that this had not been supplied before and assured me that he would deal with the matter at once. Agreed to ring up Clerk, Mr. Butt, during the day and acquaint him of the result of his enquiries.
7. Arranged with Clerk to the R.D.C. and Water Manager that should the pump be available, a vehicle will be sent for it."

Samples of the raw and treated water taken subsequent to the 10th September were reported satisfactory. A chemical analysis of the untreated water taken direct from the borehole was also reported satisfactory.

(b) PRIVATE SUPPLIES.

1. CHELWORTH. - This is a small undertaking which supplies farms and cottages in the North of Crudwell Parish.
2. CHARLTON - During the year all the properties previously supplied from the Estate undertaking were transferred to the Council's main with the exception of the estate properties set out in the fourth schedule of Deed of Grant between the Estate and the Council, which continue to receive a free supply from the Estate Source.
3. BROKENBOROUGH ? This is a small undertaking giving a standpipe supply in the village to 28 cottages and 2 farms. On the 12th October, 1956, the following report and recommendations were submitted to the Council.

"Samples of the treated water in supply have been taken at regular monthly intervals during the year for bacteriological examination. Laboratory reports on four of these samples confirmed the presence of Coli Aerogenes and Faecal B. Coli in numbers ranging from slight to gross pollution.

A sample of the raw water was taken in September this year for chemical and bacteriological examination. The report on the chemical analysis was not altogether satisfactory, and the bacteriologist's report indicated a rather serious degree of pollution with sewage or manural matter.

PRIVATE SUPPLIES - BROKENBOROUGH (CONTD)

I inspected this source with Mr. Davis on the 11th. September. The close proximity of the spring to the Avon suggests that the former on occasions becomes surcharged with river water. The supply is treated before delivery to the consumers by means of a small drip feed chlorinator. This equipment is unreliable and ceased functioning altogether on the 28th August when a sample taken from the Hydrant was reported to be grossly polluted with both faecal and non-faecal coliform bacilli.

I recommend as follows:-

1. That an alternative source be investigated.
2. That chlorination to the existing supply be stepped up so as to ensure that at least .2 parts per million of free chlorine are available.
3. Samples of the raw and treated water continue to be taken at regular intervals for bacteriological examination.
4. EASTON GREY. - The village is supplied by a small private estate supply.
5. HANKERTON & EAST COURT. - On the 13th March, 1956, the following report was presented to the Council.

"The water supply to this parish is mainly by shallow wells. Recent samples have been reported by the Bacteriologist as showing pollution varying from a gross to a moderate degree. Details of the samples will be given by Mr. Dierce in his report.

Rain water collected in an underground tank is the only supply available for the Council houses. This is not a satisfactory source.

I recommend that the Eastern Regional Scheme be extended to Hankerton and East Court as soon as possible to safeguard public health."

The following information concerning water supplies has been furnished by Mr. Campbell, the Council's Water Manager.

Supplies in Bulk from Other Authorities.

1. From Cricklade and Wootton Bassett to:-
Brinkworth, Minety and part of Charlton.
2. Malmesbury Borough Council to parts of St. Paul Without.

Areas supplied in detail by West Gloucestershire Water Co.

Lukington, Sopworth, Sherston, Norton and Foxley.

Mainlaying.

During the year main laying was commenced in the parishes of Hankerton, Eastcourt and Crudwell. Branch mains were laid in the parish of Charlton to outlying farms. (see item 5 above re Hankerton and East Court).

Corston - The pumping plant was installed and pumphouse erected and the borehole source came into service supplying the parishes of St. Paul without R & C., Hullavington, Great Somerford, Dauntsey, Little Somerford, Lea & Cleverton and Garsden, part of Brinkworth and St. Paul Without S.B.D. (With the exception of Foxley & Bristol Road area).

Mainlaying (continued)

St. Paul Without. - With the completion of the mainlaying scheme to Charlton and Garsdon, the areas of Burton Hill, Milbourne, Filands and Tetbury Hill which have been supplied in bulk from Malmesbury Borough were connected and supplied from the Council's Corston Source.

No shortage of water was experienced at any of the sources during the year.

TOTAL WATER SUPPLIES IN DISTRICT.

Malmesbury R.D.C. own sources	59,000,000
Bulk Supplies:-	
Cricklade & Wootton Bassett	27,250,000
Malmesbury Borough	8,380,000
West Glos. Water Co.(in detail)	19,500,000
Private sources	5,500,000
Total water consumed in district.	<u>119,630,000</u>

STATISTICS.

<u>Suppliers</u>	<u>No. of houses in district.</u>	<u>No. with piped supply.</u>	<u>% of total supplied</u>	<u>Pop-ulation supplied.</u>	<u>Farms.</u>
By R.D.C.		1155	36.40	4042	132
Cricklade & Wootton Bassett		478	15.07	1673	114
Malmesbury Borough		134	4.22	429	16
West Glos. Water Co.		547	17.24	1770	107
Private Supplies		210	6.64	672	8
	<u>3172</u>	<u>2524</u>	<u>79.57</u>	<u>8586</u>	<u>377</u>
<u>Without piped supply.</u>		648	20.43	1484	
<u>Percentage of population supplied</u>		85.26%			
<u>Percentage of farms supplied.</u>		93.00%			
<u>Domestic purposes</u> - Consumption per head per day				24.00	galls.

Mainlaying

Lengths of mains laid during year 5.40 miles.

Laid previously			68.91	"	
			74.31	"	
	Total:-				
	No. of houses in parish.	No. of hses. directly supplied.	Popln. supplied.	Private supplies.	Private by stand-pipe.

<u>Parish</u>	<u>No. of houses in parish.</u>	<u>No. of hses. directly supplied.</u>	<u>Popln. supplied.</u>	<u>Private supplies.</u>	<u>Private by stand-pipe.</u>
Brinkworth	309	278	973		
Brokenborough	68	18	45	50	30
Charlton	185	103	329	14	
Crudwell	207	120	420	20	
Dauntsey	138	130	438		
Easton Grey	31	26	80	26	
Gt. Somerford	171	144	486		
Hankerton	70	2	7		
Hullavington	268	247	803	100	
Lea & Cleverton	173	138	441		
Lt. Somerford	86	70	240		
Luckington	155	130	420		
Minety	244	220	774		
Foxley & Norton	47	37	130		
Oaksey	127	90	330		
St. Paul Without	464	391	1320		
Sherston	394	345	1230		
Sopworth.	35	35	120		
Totals	<u>3172</u>	<u>2524</u>	<u>8586</u>	<u>210</u>	<u>30</u>

On the 11th December, 1956, the following report concerning Hullavington Sewage Disposal, was given to the Council:-

" On the 10th April, 1951, Messrs. Ross Hooper & Harvey reported on a proposed Sewage Disposal Scheme for the Parish of Hullavington based only on an estimated population of 550 and excluding farm premises. The Engineer to the Bristol Avon River Board in a letter dated 21st August, 1951 gave details of the peculiar difficulties which would arise should such a scheme include farm drainage. Particular attention should be given to the following:-

1. To be effective, any scheme for Hullavington aimed at the reduction of the pollution of the Gauze Brook, will need to include drainage from seven farms. Mr. Pierce informs me that drainage of the farms has been arranged with falls to the existing drock and that it is impracticable to arrange alternatives. Surface water from farm yards and premises is also drained to the drock.
2. The flow of the Gauze Brook in the summer months is low so that a high degree of purity of the final effluent will be necessary if farm drainage is to be treated. The Works will require to be larger and careful maintenance will be essential. They will therefore be expensive both to construct and maintain.
3. The Sewage Disposal Works will primarily deal with farm drainage rather than domestic sewage. The River Board Engineer in 1951 states that " a recent survey has shown that there are 204 milking cows and 20 sties of pigs within the sewage area as well as 110 other cattle and seven horses. The present population of Hullavington, according to the 1956-57 Year Book is 600.
4. The final effluent from a Sewage Disposal Works, although it may satisfy the requirements of the Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) Act, 1951, is not sterile and may still carry the microbes of infectious disease.
5. The attention of the Committee is directed to a letter from the Ministry of Housing & Local Government, particularly paras 4 & 5 addressed to the Wilts. County Council and quoted in a communication from the Clerk Wilts. County Council dated 12th May, 1954.
6. Since a sewage scheme for Hullavington will be expensive and difficult and will primarily deal with farm sewage, it is recommended that this scheme be not pursued at this period of financial stringency, but that further consideration be given to a sewage disposal scheme for the village of Corston as recommended in the final para. of my report to the Committee dated 14th November, 1950."

Further details on sewerage and sewage disposal will be found in the report of the Senior Public Health Inspector annexed.

REPORT OF SURVEYOR AND SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1956.

17

HOUSING.

Erection of Council Houses.

No new houses were completed during the year, but work commenced on the erection of 20 three-bedroomed Holcot houses and 12 two-bedroomed Holcot bungalows, with site works, at Bendy Bow, Oaksey.

A scheme for the erection of 34 three-bedroomed houses and 21 two-bedroomed bungalows at Bristol Road, Malmesbury, is in course of preparation.

Number of visits to Housing Sites 86.

27 families have been accommodated in Council houses during the year.

Maintenance of Council Houses.

The policy of repairing houses mainly by direct labour has continued satisfactorily, four men being employed.

Attention has been given to the improvement of paths and boundary fences, and the maintenance of the sewage disposal plants has been more satisfactory through the employment of two men solely for this work.

Exterior painting continues to be carried out by contract, and at present it is possible to repaint all the Council's houses every three years.

The average cost of repair and maintenance during the year was approximately £12. 0. 0. per house.

Number of inspections of occupied Council houses 354.

Charlton Centre and Wartime Day Nursery.

The number of families in this temporary accommodation continues to decrease and at the end of the year was:-

Charlton Centre	40
Day Nursery	3

Some families will be accommodated in the houses being built at Oaksey, but most of the present occupants will be re-housed in the Bristol Road scheme.

Private Enterprise Building.

There has been an increase in the building of houses by private enterprise, the number completed in the year being 25.

Number in course of erection 14.

Administration of Building Byelaws.

Number of plans submitted for approval	85.
" " " passed	85.
" " inspections in connection therewith	461.

Town and Country Planning Act, 1947.

The Council continued to exercise the powers delegated by the Wilts. County Council with regard to development control.

Number of applications for permission to develop	65.
" approved without conditions	26.
" approved with conditions	32.
" of applications withdrawn	5.
" of applications refused	3.
" of inspections in connection therewith	142.

Temporary Dwellings.

All caravan sites licensed by the Council have been well maintained and are provided with adequate water supplies and sanitary accommodation.

One site is licensed for the stationing of 16 caravans, 2 sites for 3 caravans on each, and 8 caravans are licensed individually.

Number of inspections

15.

Inspection of Dwellings.

Number of inspections of dwellings for defects under Housing or
Public Health Acts

461.

" of dwellings found to be unfit for human habitation

81.

" found to be not in all respects fit

211.

" of dwellings repaired by informal action

57.

" of cases of statutory action

Nil.

" of houses demolished

9.

" of houses closed

7.

" of overcrowded dwellings known at end of year

Nil.

Housing Act, 1949 - Improvement Grants.

The number of houses improved with grant aid continues to increase.

Number of applications received during the year

35.

" " " approved

35.

" " schemes completed

34.

Average cost per dwelling approved

£634.

WATER.

Samples of water from the Council's supplies have been regularly submitted for examination.

Private supplies have been sampled as required and the necessary action taken.

Number of inspections in connection therewith

269.

SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The installation of main water supplies throughout practically the whole of the District, and consequent increase in drainage, makes the need for main sewage schemes greater than ever.

It is difficult to obtain labour for clearing ditches which the Council have maintained for years as public sewers, and there is gross pollution of streams and water courses in many places.

The construction of a new sewage disposal plant for Sherston has been commenced and its completion will see a great improvement in the River Avon below the village.

Number of inspections in connection with sewage disposal

105.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Refuse is collected twice monthly, by direct labour, over the whole of the Rural District.

Four times a year there is a three week interval between collections and this gives rise to some confusion and makes it difficult for householders to store refuse satisfactorily.

The volume of refuse collected continues to increase. Now that the Council owns two lorries, consideration should be given to providing a more frequent collection.

Refuse is deposited at four tips, Brinkworth and Hullavington (owned by the Council), Sherston and Oaksey (by agreement with the owners).

No serious difficulty has been experienced at the tips, but the finding of new tipping sites when the present ones are full will not be easy.

Too many householders continue to use unsuitable containers for refuse. A covered fly-proof bin should be provided in every case. 19

Mileage covered by lorry	11,185.
Estimated amount of refuse collected	1440 tons.
" average per house per year	9 cwts.
Number of inspections in connection with refuse collection and disposal	101.

RODENT CONTROL.

Refuse tips have been treated for destruction of rats as required and sewers shew no serious infestations.

Private premises are treated without charge, on request.

Number of properties inspected for infestations	202.
" " " found to be infested and treated	58.
" " visits in connection therewith	287.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

20 visits were made and the necessary action taken following reported cases of infectious disease.

NUISANCES.

Regular inspections have been made over the District to detect and deal with nuisances. It has not been necessary to recommend the Council to take statutory action in any case, all nuisances having been dealt with informally.

Number of inspections	167.
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FOOD INSPECTION.

Milk.

The Council are responsible for control of the distribution of milk and not for production.

Number of registered Distributors	2.
" " licensed Dealers in Pasteurised milk	3.
" " " " in Tuberculin Tested milk	2.
" " Dealers with supplementary licence to use designation Tuberculin Tested	5.
" " " " supplementary licence to use designation Pasteurised	2.
" " inspections of premises	6.

Bakehouses.

5 bakehouses are clean and generally satisfactory.

Fried Fish Shops.

1 shop is registered for the sale of fried fish and is satisfactory.

Ice-Cream.

No ice-cream is manufactured in the District, and all sold is pre-packed by the Makers.

Number of premises registered for sale of ice-cream	21.
" " inspections	32.

Food Premises.

All premises in the District used for the sale of food, are generally in good condition and well maintained.

Progress continues to be made in the provision of adequate sanitary conveniences and cleansing facilities in public houses, and most are now satisfactory.

Number of inspections

65.

Meat.

1 private slaughterhouse is licensed and there are 3 butcher shops in the District. They are all clean and in good condition. The carcases of all animals slaughtered were examined.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	67	nil	14	49	100	nil
Number inspected	67	nil	14	49	100	nil
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcases condemned	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	4.48	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>						
Whole carcases condemned	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	5	nil	nil	nil	1	nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	7.46	nil	nil	nil	1.0	nil
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Generalised and totally condemned	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil

STORAGE OF PETROLEUM.

All premises used for the storage of petroleum spirit and carbide of calcium are satisfactory.

Number of premises licensed for storage of petroleum spirit54.
" " " " " " " carbide of calcium1.
" " inspections24.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

During the year the total number of inspections made by Officers
of the Department was2358.

Schedule of Food Premises in the District.

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Number of Inspections.</u>
Butchers	3	10
Grocers (including General Stores)	30	48
Bakers	5	11
Dairies	2	6
Ice Cream	21	32
Public Houses	40	65
Greengrocers	2	2
Fish & Chips	1	3
Restaurants and Canteens	<u>5</u>	<u>9</u>
	<u>109</u>	<u>186</u>

Schedule of Food Premises in the District

